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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of: I hereby certify that this correspondence is being) Before the Examiner deposited with the United States Postal Service as Ray Miller John A. Ricci first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on Serial No. 09/873,805 November 28, 2003 (Date of Deposit) Group Art Unit 3712 Filed: June 4, 2001 METHOD AND APPARATUS Our Ref.: 6001-900 November 28, 2003 FOR FORMING OPENINGS IN /Date of Signature A WORKPIECE

REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

RECEIVED

DEC 1 0 2003

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Sir:

Commissioner for Patents

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

P. O. Box 1450

In response to the Office Action mailed May 28, 2003, Applicant hereby requests a three-month Extension of Time to respond up to and including November 28, 2003.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge the large entity fee for the Extension of Time to Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but not to include the payment of issue fees.

Additionally, please provide any additional Extension of Time necessary and charge any additional fees to Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

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Respectfully submitted

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